せっかち伯爵と時間どろぼう
Le comte impatient et le voleur de temps
ゴロゴロ
ゴロゴロ
ゴロゴロ

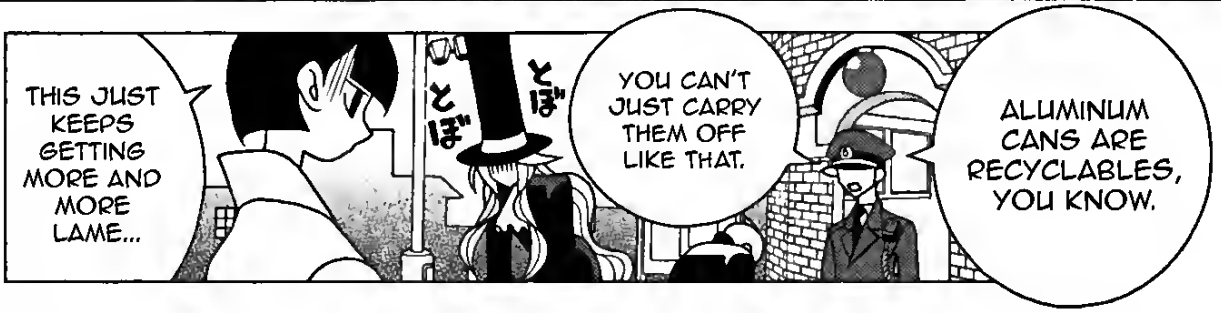
00'05" The Count that Laid the Golden Eggs

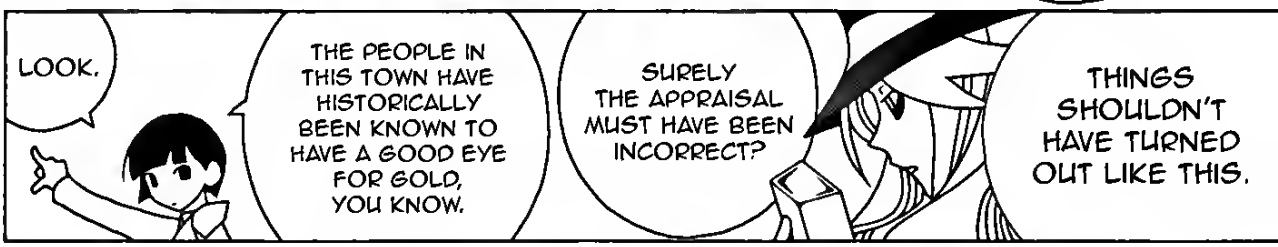
WHY'D YOU CALL ME OUT HERE ALL OF A SUDDEN!?
I BELIEVE THIS HAS VALUE IN YOUR DIMENSION, DOES IT NOT?
すごい
GOLD
I COULD BUY ALL SORTS OF EXPENSIVE TOOLS!
IF I HAD THAT...
A GOLD BAR!
IT'S ...
IT WOULD BE WISE ...
NOT TO LOOK DOWN ON ME TOO MUCH.
HAH.
THAT'S AMAZING! I'VE MIS-JUDGED YOU, COUNT.
YOUR ATTITUDE CHANGED QUICKLY.
BOAT TREASURE
BUYER AND SELLER OF PRECIOUS METALS
DAIKOKUYA
宝
DAIKOKU-YA

I'M VERY SORRY...
BUT WE UNFORTU-NATELY FIND OURSELVES UNABLE TO PURCHASE THIS.
EH?
I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MEAN.
IT'S THE PURITY, YOU SEE...
THEY ...
TURNED IT DOWN !?
YOU CALL THAT ALCHEMY!? YOU LIAR!
I HAVEN'T BEEN FEELING VERY WELL RECENTLY, YOU SEE...
I'M UNABLE TO TRANSMUTE ANY HIGHER THAN 14-KARAT GOLD.

WHAT KIND OF HALF-ASSED ALCHEMY IS THAT!?
ONLY 14-KARAT!?
THAT'S THE POINT WHERE IT BECOMES NO LONGER PROFITABLE.
WHEN THE COST AND LABOR OF EXTRACTING IT IS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT...
Don't want it
THAT THEY TURNED IT DOWN INDICATES IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN ANY HIGHER THAN NINE.
14-KARAT IS BEING A BIT GENEROUS.
THAT'S JUST PRETEND ALCHEMY AT THAT POINT!
BUT STILL, NINE-KARAT ALCHEMY!?
OH?
WE MIGHT ACQUIRE FUNDS BY GATHERING ALUMINUM CANS.
THE MATERIAL I USED MUST HAVE BEEN LOW QUALITY.
NINE KARATS SOUNDS A LITTLE LOW TO ME...
WHAT DOES LOWERING THE QUALITY ACCOMPLISH!?
SO LONG AS IT'S AT LEAST 18-KARAT I CAN USUALLY MANAGE AROUND 14.

Coffee
HEY, YOU THERE!


THIS JUST KEEPS GETTING MORE AND MORE LAME...
とぼ
とぼ
YOU CAN'T JUST CARRY THEM OFF LIKE THAT.
ALUMINUM CANS ARE RECYCLABLES, YOU KNOW.


LOOK.
THE PEOPLE IN THIS TOWN HAVE HISTORICALLY BEEN KNOWN TO HAVE A GOOD EYE FOR GOLD, YOU KNOW.
SURELY THE APPRAISAL MUST HAVE BEEN INCORRECT?
THINGS SHOULDN'T HAVE TURNED OUT LIKE THIS.

IT'S NINE-KARAT.
EVEN THEN, THERE'S NOT THAT MUCH OF A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 14- AND 24-KARAT.

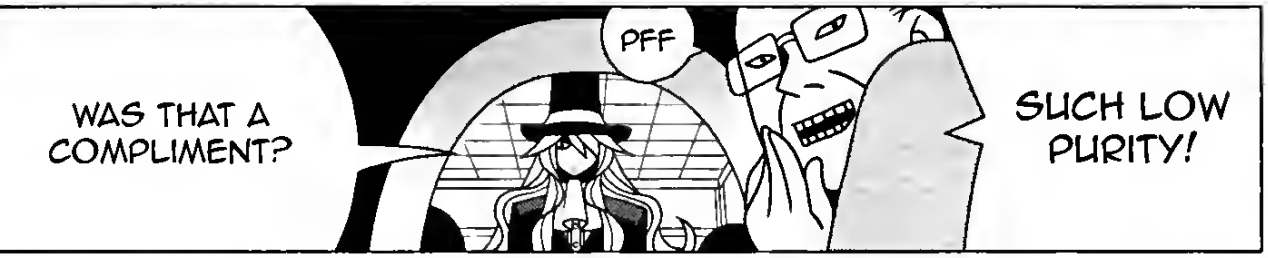
FOR EXAM-PLE!
THERE'S A HUGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 14- AND 24-KARAT!

Gold Mine Historical Soci
THE OLD GOLD MINE.
THEY CLOSED IT AND TURNED IT INTO A MUSEUM AFTER IT RAN DRY, THOUGH.

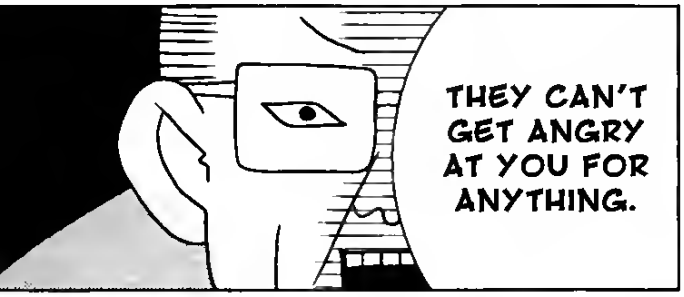
AN IMPER-SONATION OF YOUR BOSS!
AND NINE-KARAT WOULD BE...
ANTOKI-NO-INOKI!
14-KARAT WOULD BE...
HARU ICHI-BAN!
18-KARAT WOULD BE...
IS THE REAL ANTONIO INOKI!
ASSUME THAT 24-KARAT...
WE CAN STILL GET SOMEONE TO BUY IT.
AN... IMPERSON-ATION OF YOUR BOSS!?
ガーン
IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S COMPLETELY WORTHLESS!
...LOOK.
LOANS · PURCHASES
PAWN
WE BUY 9K AND LOWER!
YOU WERE HERE?
WE BUY 9K AND LOWER!
Happy Happy Pawn
HERE?
WHERE ALMOST NO ONE GOES.
OF THE SHOPPING DISTRICT.
THE BACK ALLEY...
WHAT? ARE YOU AFRAID?
THIS PLACE IS DANGEROUS.
LET'S GO BACK.

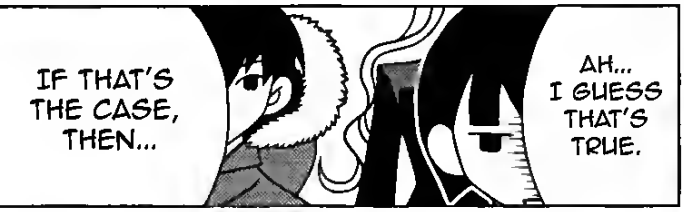
IT MEANS THEY'RE BEING RUN BY SPIES.
WHEN STORES DON'T GO OUT OF BUSINESS EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE NO CUSTOMERS ...
THE REASON THEY DON'T GO UNDER IS BECAUSE THEY'RE GETTING FUNDING FROM THEIR HOME COUNTRY.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? ARE YOU STUPID?
HUH?
AND THE LADY AT THAT DINER ...
AND THAT USED CAR DEALER-SHIP...
THAT OLD CANDY STORE ...
THEN...
I CAN'T SPEAK FOR EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM, OF COURSE.
YOU'RE SAYING ALL OF THEM ARE SPIES?
GOLD
ゴッ
IS SPLEN-DID.
THIS...
EX-CUSE ME!
ばん
ANYWAY, WE'RE GOING INSIDE!

A FINE EXAMPLE OF NINE-KARAT OR LESS.
THIS IS, WITHOUT A DOUBT...


WAS THAT A COMPLIMENT?
PFF
SUCH LOW PURITY!

WHEN THE GOODS ARE OBVIOUSLY NINE-KARAT OR LESS...
SO, OBVIOUS FAKES, BASICALLY?

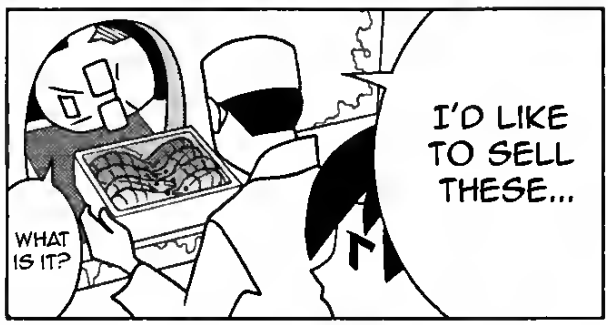

THEY CAN'T GET ANGRY AT YOU FOR ANYTHING.


IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN...
AH... I GUESS THAT'S TRUE.

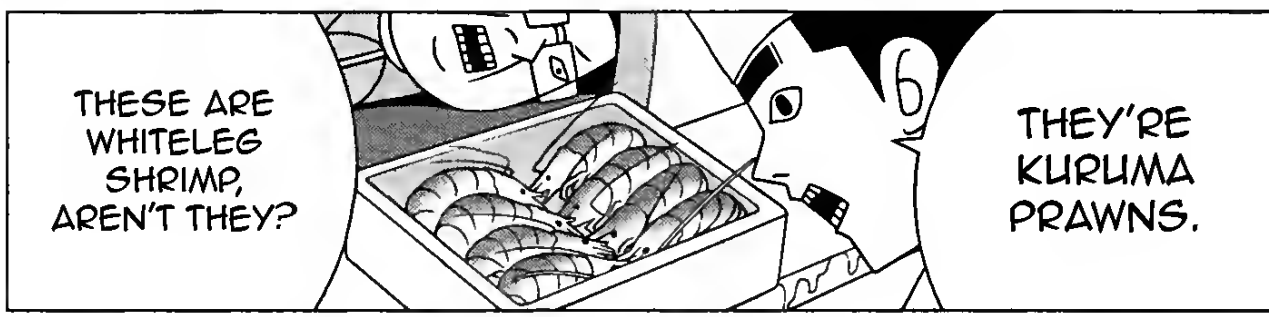
SINCE THEY CAN'T GET MAD AT ST. GERMAIN-SAN IF THERE'S NO ACTUAL GOLD IN IT...

OUR STORE ALSO...
DEALS IN LOW-PURITY BRAND-NAME BAGS AND SUCH.

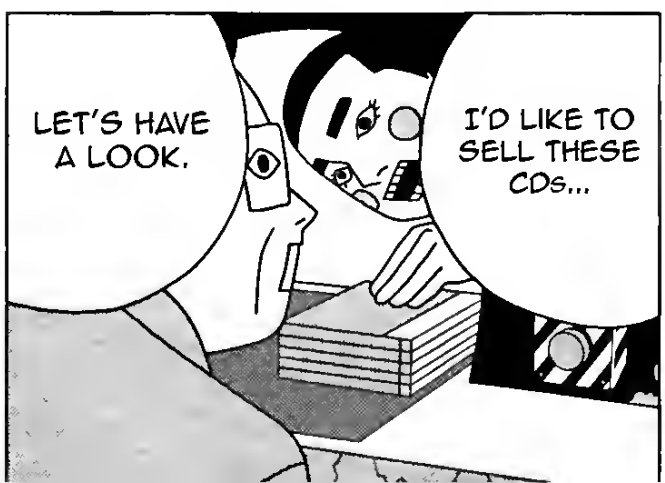
I TOLD YOU, I'M NOT A BAKER!
HE SHOULD START SELLING "KIN NO SHOKUPAN"!

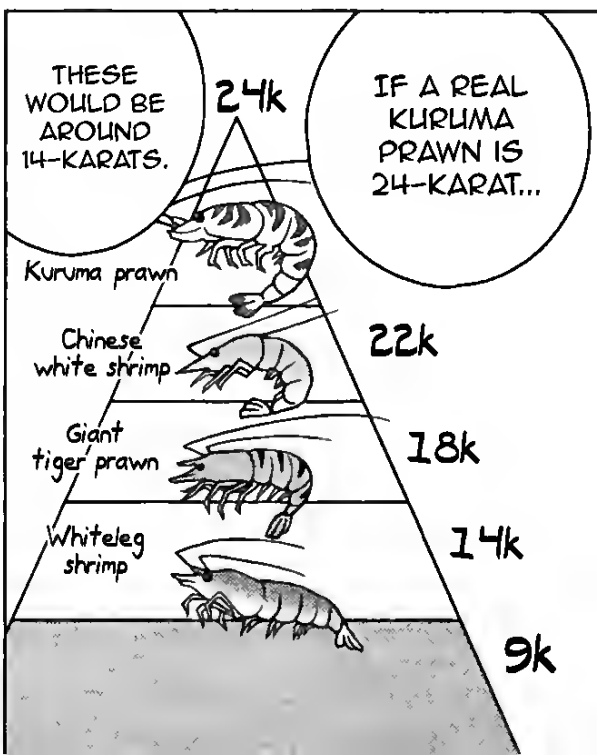

WHAT IS IT?
I'D LIKE TO SELL THESE...

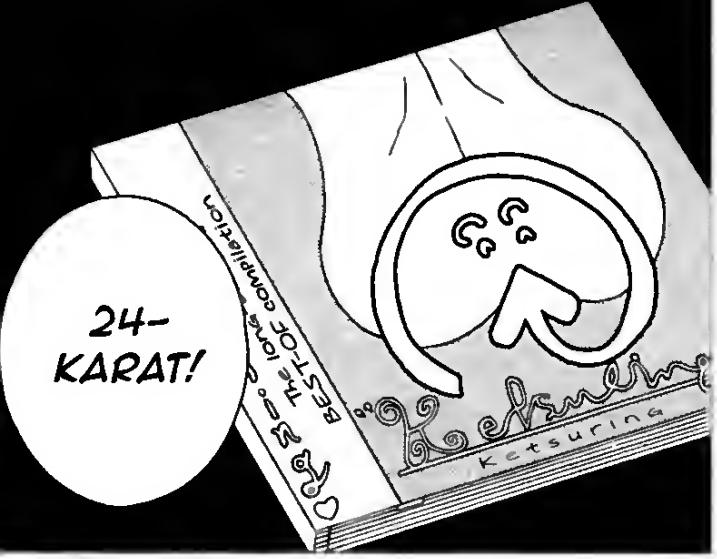
AND IT'S PRETTY GOOD!
BUT KIN NO SHOKUPAN IS A REAL THING!


THESE ARE WHITELEG SHRIMP, AREN'T THEY?
THEY'RE KURUMA PRAWNS.

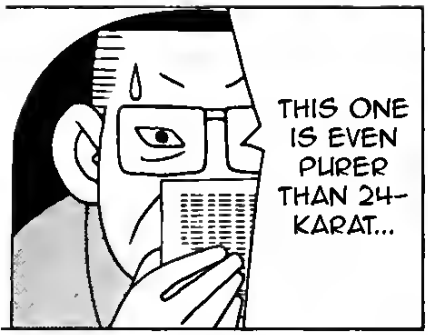
WHAT KIND OF SHRIMP WOULD NINE-KARAT BE!?
WE ONLY TAKE NINE-KARAT OR LESS, I'M AFRAID.


LET'S HAVE A LOOK.
I'D LIKE TO SELL THESE CDs...


THESE WOULD BE AROUND 14-KARATS.
IF A REAL KURUMA PRAWN IS 24-KARAT...
24k
Kuruma prawn
22k
Chinese white shrimp
18k
Giant tiger prawn
14k
Whiteleg shrimp
9k


24-KARAT!
Ketsurina
Ketsurina
THE LONG AWAITED COMPILATION
BEST-OF

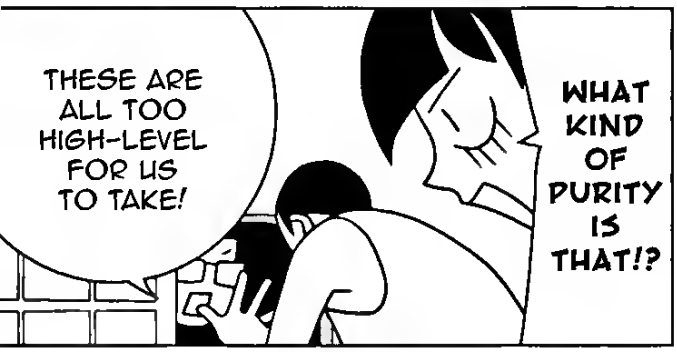
THESE ARE ALL PRETTY HIGH-QUALITY...
SO HE DEALS IN CDs TOO.


THIS ONE IS EVEN PURER THAN 24-KARAT...

ZUNDOKO
14-KARAT!

18-KARAT!
Matsuura Yuuji

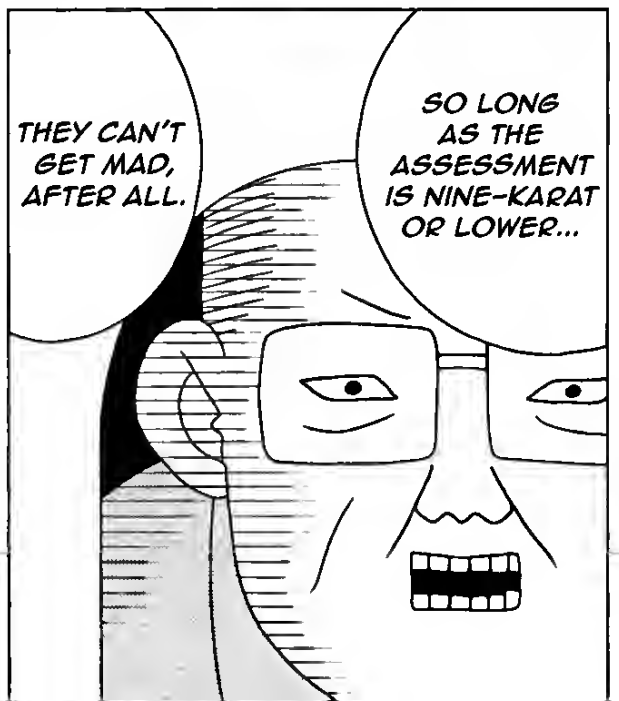
My Grandfather's Cock
22-KARAT!

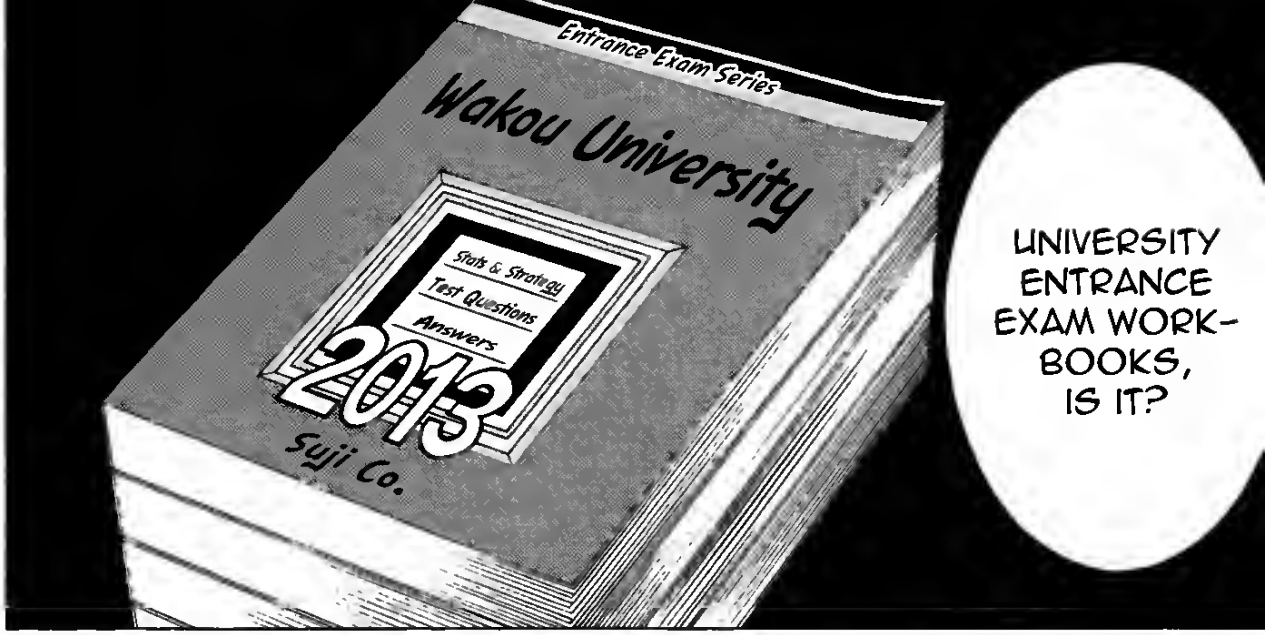

THESE ARE ALL TOO HIGH-LEVEL FOR US TO TAKE!
WHAT KIND OF PURITY IS THAT!?

Matsu-daira-k
24k
22k
18k
14k
A Night at the Ojara
Party
MATSU-DAIRA-KARAT!

THERE'S NO WAY I COULD JUST SAY THAT OUT LOUD.
WHO CAN'T GET MAD AT WHAT!?

LET'S SEE, HERE.
EXCUSE ME, BUT I'D LIKE TO SELL THESE BOOKS...


THEY CAN'T GET MAD, AFTER ALL.
SO LONG AS THE ASSESSMENT IS NINE-KARAT OR LOWER...


Entrance Exam Series
Wakou University
Stats & Strategy
Test Questions
Answers
2013
Suji Co.
UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE EXAM WORK-BOOKS, IS IT?

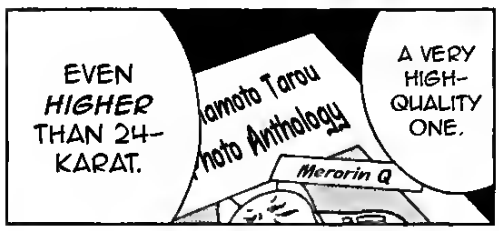
Meiji Univ
Literature Depart
18-KARAT!

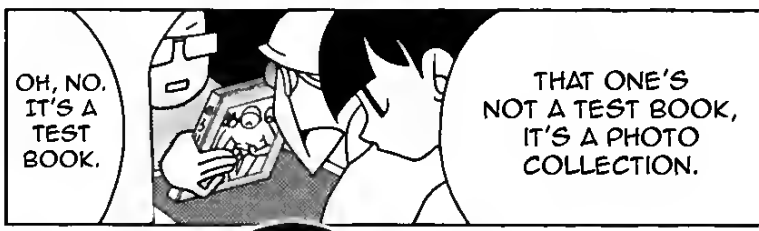
Entrance E
Ritsumeikan Univ
Third Trimester Sorting Method of
Business Management Course
Ritsumeikan Asia and Pacific
22-KARAT!

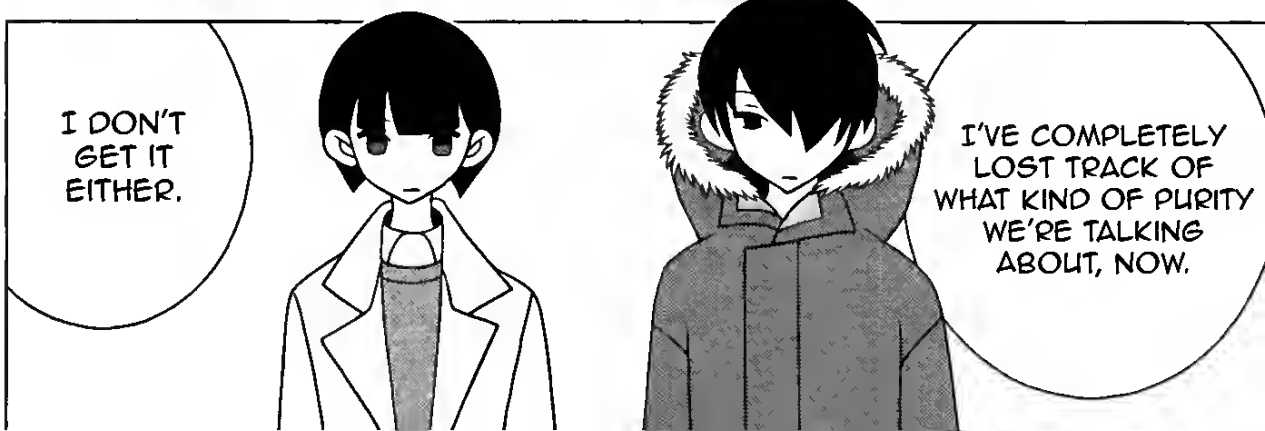
Wakou
24-KARAT!
Stats & Strategy

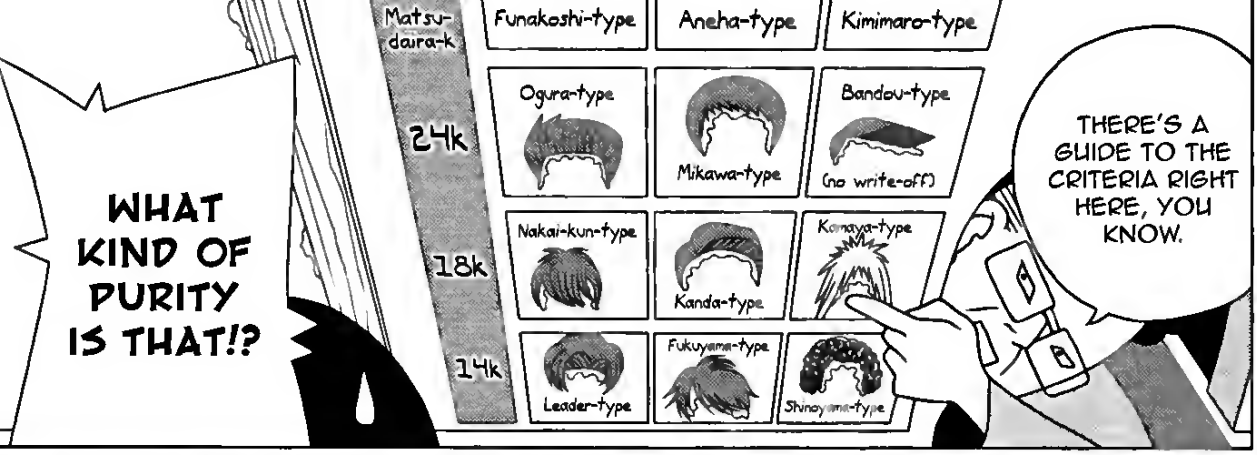
14-KARAT!
Hosei Univer
Economics Depa

THIS ONE FOR HOSEI WOULD HAVE BEEN 24-KARAT BACK IN THE 70'S, THOUGH.
BUT THEN WHAT IS IT BASED ON?
WELL, IT'S OBVIOUSLY NOT BASED ON THE DIFFICULTY OF THE TESTS...


EVEN HIGHER THAN 24-KARAT.
amoto Tarou
hoto Anthology
Merorin Q
A VERY HIGH-QUALITY ONE.

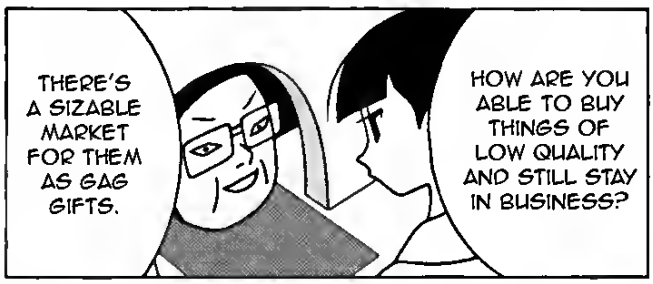

OH, NO. IT'S A TEST BOOK.
THAT ONE'S NOT A TEST BOOK, IT'S A PHOTO COLLECTION.

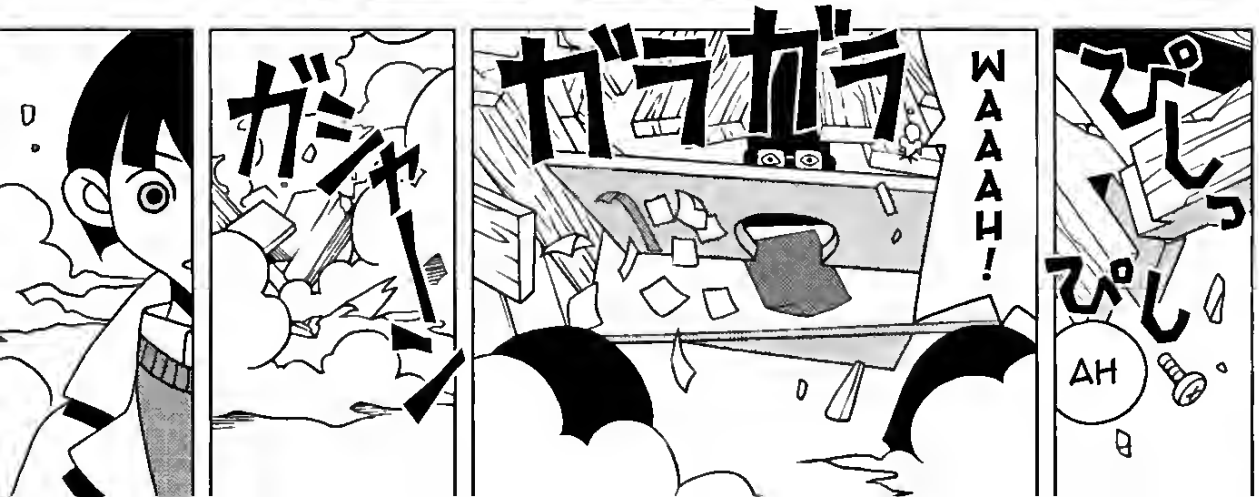

I DON'T GET IT EITHER.
I'VE COMPLETELY LOST TRACK OF WHAT KIND OF PURITY WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, NOW.

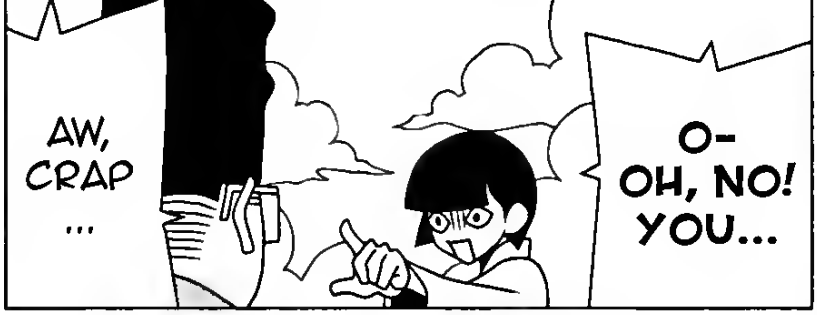


Coffee House	Pure Literature	Nabokov	Director Takasu	Marquis de Sade	24K
Cafe Renoir	Pulp Fiction	Chaplin	Girls' Generation	Tanoshingo	22K
Komeda Coffee	Light Novels	Nojima Shinji	Itano Tomomi	Hannibal Lecter	18K
Maid Cafe	Cellphone Novels	George Takahashi	Allie Mizusawa	Empress Dowager Cixi	14K
No-Panties Cafe	KAGEROU	Miyazaki Hayao	Joe Shishido	Coach Hoshino	9 K

THERE'S MANY OTHER TYPES OF APPRAISAL CRITERIA. ALTHOUGH WHAT THEY'RE FOR IS A TRADE SECRET.



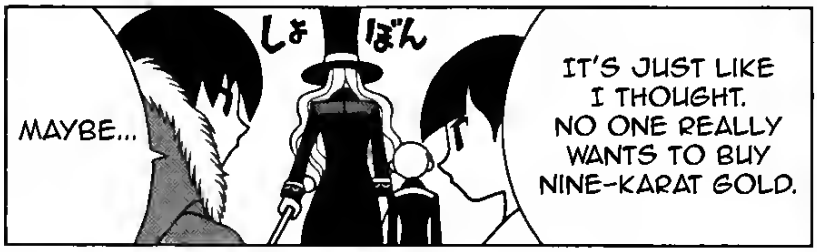



AW, CRAP ...
O- OH, NO! YOU...

THAT'S ALL?
EH?
YOUR GLASSES ARE BROKEN!

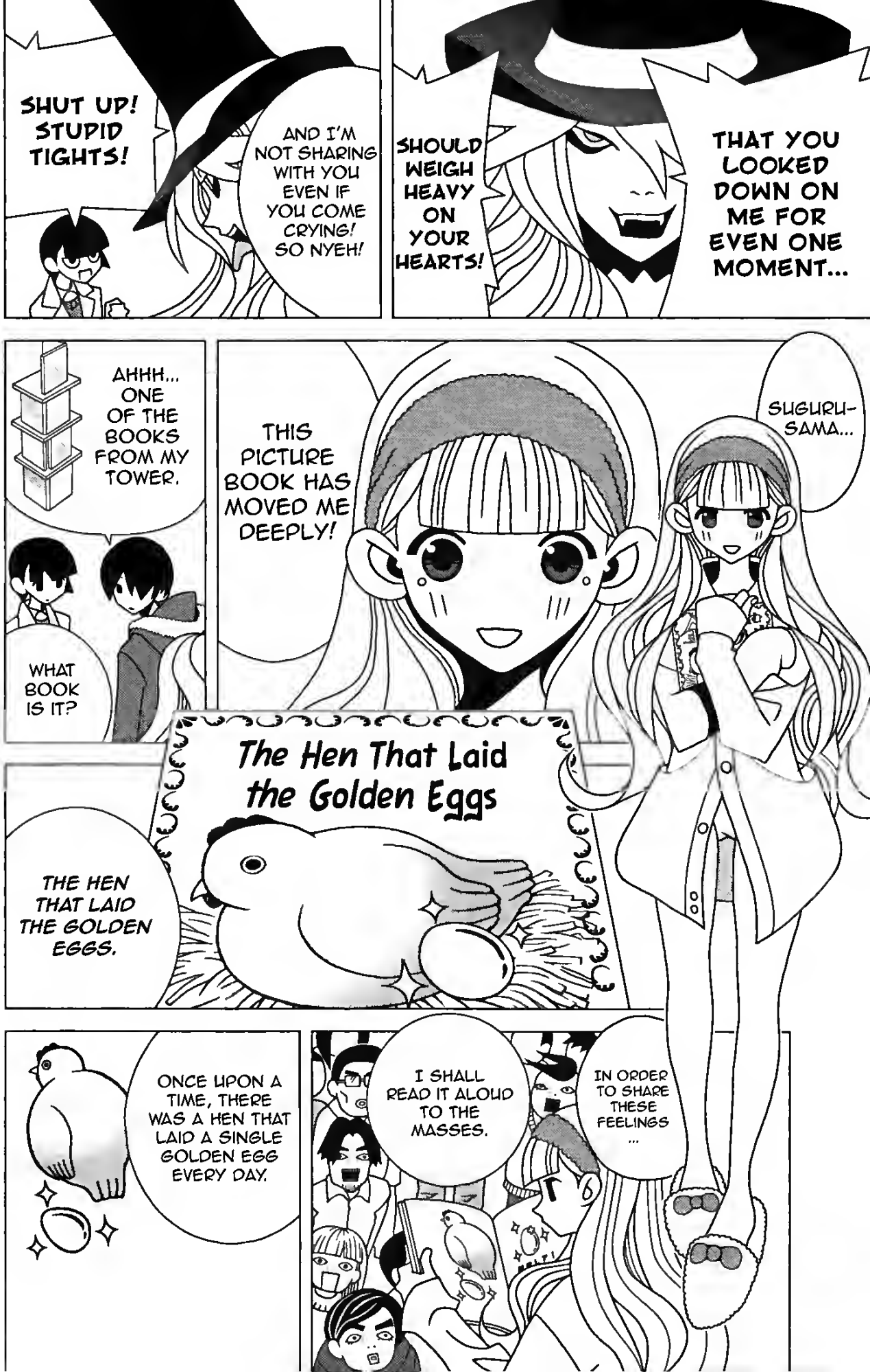
IS SHE AN IDIOT?
I'M VERY SORRY! I'LL MAKE SURE HE REIMBURSES YOU!

WE'RE CLOSED FOR THE DAY! GET OUT!!
WE WEREN'T ABLE TO SELL IT AFTER ALL!


しょぼん
MAYBE...
IT'S JUST LIKE I THOUGHT. NO ONE REALLY WANTS TO BUY NINE-KARAT GOLD.

EVEN NINE-KARAT CAN BECOME VALUABLE.
BUT IF THE MARKET VALUE OF GOLD GOES UP ENOUGH...

SO THIS IS THE ERA YOU'VE MADE YOUR HOME ...
MY BELOVED ST. GERMAIN.
I'LL HELP MAKE THIS...
AN ERA THAT CAN APPRECIATE YOU.
This just in.
99% of the world's gold reserves have suddenly turned into bronze.
HIGHEST MARKET VALUE IN HISTORY
わはははは
NINE-KARAT GOLD IS PROFITABLE NOW, APPARENTLY.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
わはははは
NO, SELL IT TO ME!
SELL IT TO ME!


SHUT UP! STUPID TIGHTS!
AND I'M NOT SHARING WITH YOU EVEN IF YOU COME CRYING! SO NYEH!
SHOULD WEIGH HEAVY ON YOUR HEARTS!
THAT YOU LOOKED DOWN ON ME FOR EVEN ONE MOMENT...
AHHH... ONE OF THE BOOKS FROM MY TOWER.
WHAT BOOK IS IT?
THIS PICTURE BOOK HAS MOVED ME DEEPLY!
SUGURU-SAMA...
The Hen That Laid the Golden Eggs
THE HEN THAT LAID THE GOLDEN EGGS.
ONCE UPON A TIME, THERE WAS A HEN THAT LAID A SINGLE GOLDEN EGG EVERY DAY.
I SHALL READ IT ALOUD TO THE MASSES.
IN ORDER TO SHARE THESE FEELINGS ...
Help!

HE SLASHED OPEN THE HEN'S STOMACH.

ばしゅっ

SO, BELIEVING THAT THERE MUST SURELY BE A GOLDEN NUGGET HIDDEN INSIDE...

GREW IMPATIENT OF WAITING FOR JUST ONE PER DAY.

BUT THE HEN'S OWNER ...

THAT'S NOT HOW IT'S SUPPOSED TO END!!

イヤッホーイ

AND WHEN HE DID, THERE WAS AN EVEN LARGER GOLDEN NUGGET THAN HE HAD EVER IMAGINED. *THE END.*

GEHHHH!?

THERE MUST BE A HUGE GOLD NUGGET HIDDEN INSIDE HIM!

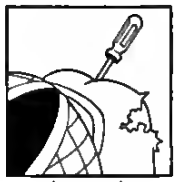
EH?

じろり

A GOLD NUGGET?

GOLD NUGGET.

SO THERE REALLY IS ONE IN THERE!



As seen in chapter three

I SAW SOME DELINQUENTS DIGGING AROUND IN HIS ASS, EARLIER!

I SAW IT!

OH, DEAR.

ドドド

RARE ANUS!!

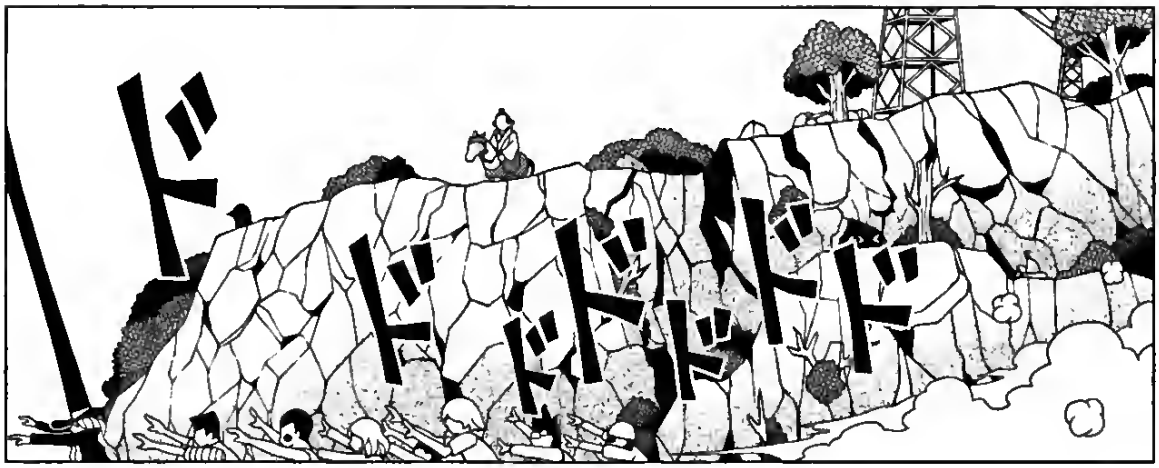
IT'S A GOLD RUSH!!

LET US DIG IT OUT OF YOUUU!!

THAT'S INCREDIBLY RARE! I MUST HAVE IT!

A NUGGET OF NINE-KARAT GOLD, YOU SAY!?

ウホオオオオ
EVERY MONEY-GRUBBER IN TOWN...
IS AFTER MY ASS-HOLE!
HM?
Gold Mine Historical Society Director, Jun Kinsu-san
金山会
ドドド
HE'S MAKING FOR THE GOLD MINE!
AFTER HIM!
COAT GOLD MINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PERFECT MATCH!
IS A COVERT OPERA-TIVE!
THAT MAN ...
HUH ...
Foreign Agent Apprehended
IT LOOKS LIKE HE REALLY WAS A SPY, LIKE I SAID.
YOU SPY!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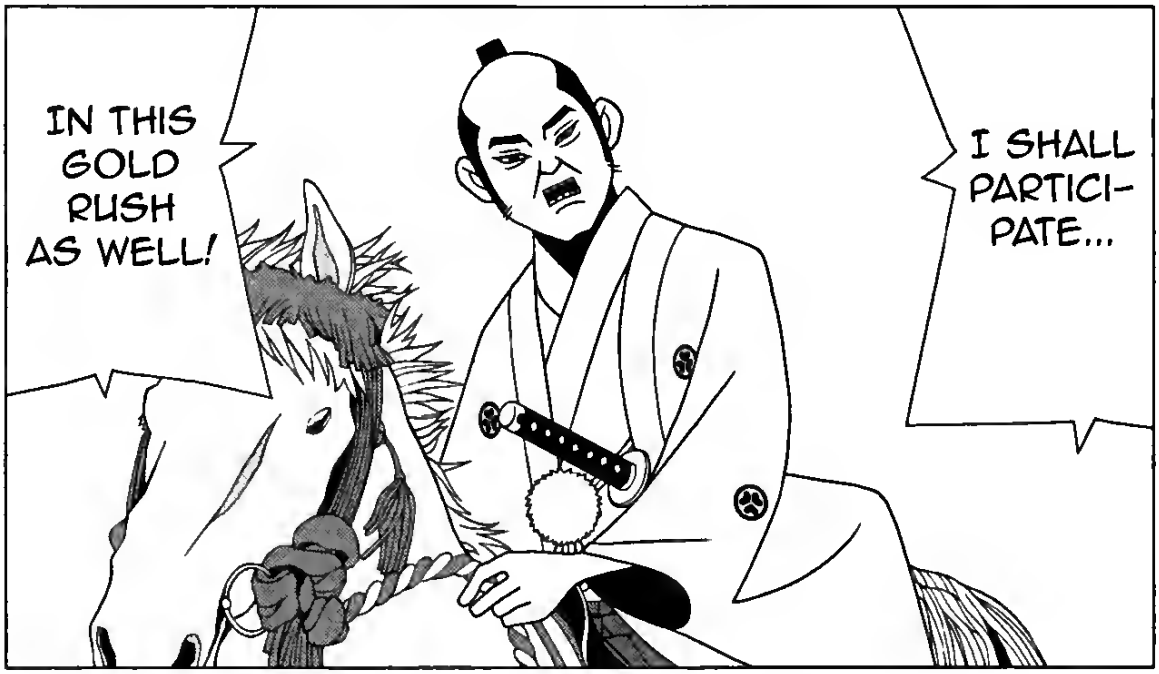
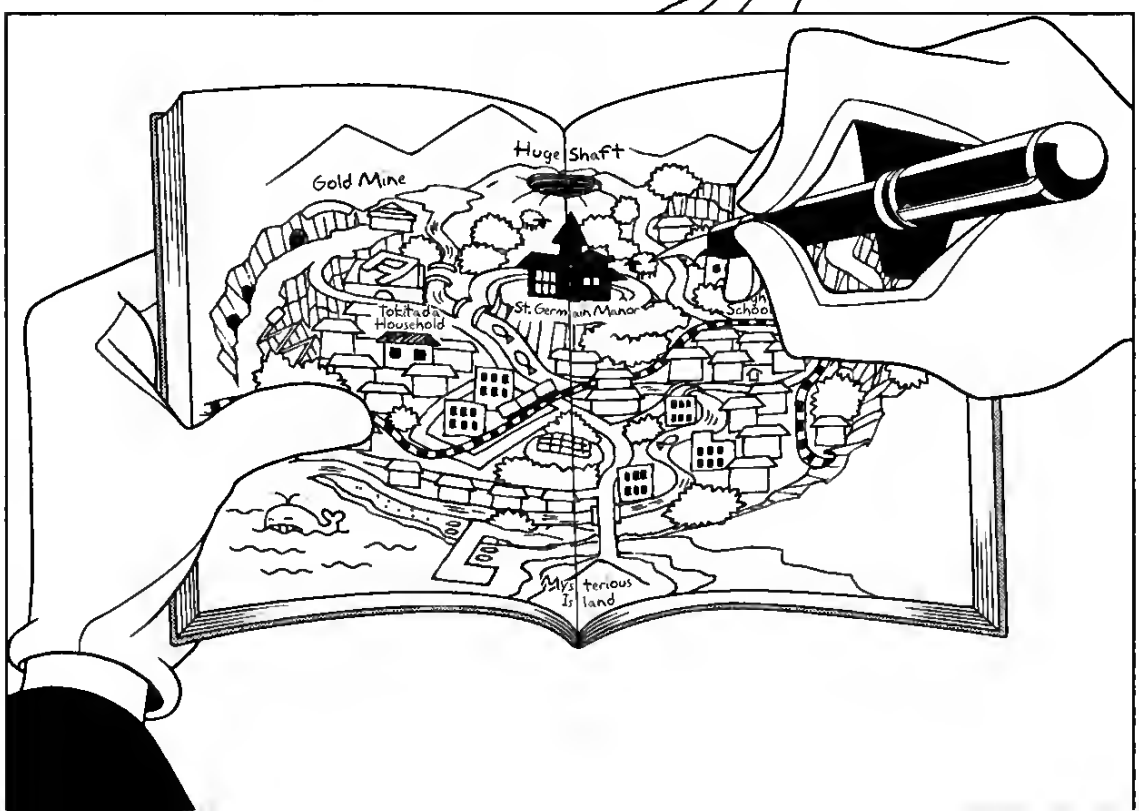

IN THIS GOLD RUSH AS WELL!
I SHALL PARTICI-PATE...

IT MAY BE AN ABANDONED GOLD MINE ...
ピョオオオオオオオ
BUT THAT REALLY IS ONE HUGE SHAFT.


Huge Shaft
Gold Mine
Tokita-da Household
St. Germain Manor
Mysterious Island

Translator's Notes (1/2)

- *Page 7, Panel 1: "Antonio Inoki"*
  The stage name of Inoki Kanji, a Japanese politician and former pro wrestler and mixed martial artist. Haru Ichiban and Antoki-no-Inoki are the stage names of two Japanese comedians both known for their impersonations of Inoki.

- *Page 10, Panel 1: "Kin no Shokupan"*
  Literally "golden bread," an expensive and supposedly high-quality brand of bread sold at 7-11 convenience stores in Japan.

- *Page 11, Panel 2: "Ketsuring"*
  From the Makihara Noriyuki album "SMILING~THE BEST OF NORIYUKI MAKIHARA". "Ketsu" means butt.

- *Page 11, Panel 3: "My Grandfather's Cock"*
  From the song "My Grandfather's Clock", as covered by Hirai Ken.

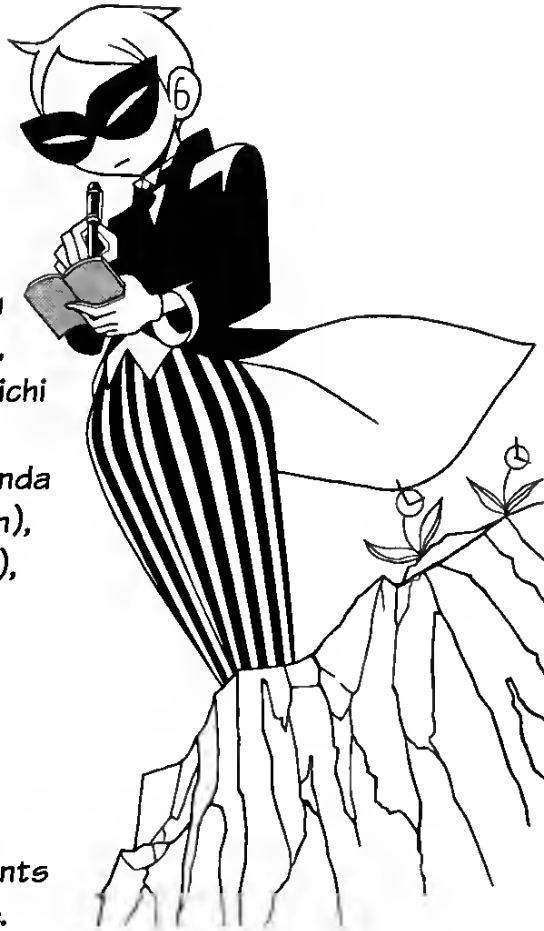
- *Page 11, Panel 4: "Mitsuya Yuuji"*
  The voice actor for the character Uesugi Tatsuya in the anime adaptation of Touch.

- *Page 11, Panel 5: "Zundoko"*
  Zundokobushi, an enka song as covered by Hikawa Kiyoshi.

- *Page 11, Panel 7: "Matsudaira-karat!"*
  A reference to the actor and singer Matsudaira Ken, who has frequently had his sexuality called into question. All of the artists mentioned on this page have been suspected of homosexuality as well, which answers Mago's question in the next panel.

- *Page 12, Panel 6: "Well, it's obviously not based on the difficulty of the tests... But then what is it based on?"*
  Each of the mentioned universities has been the site of Marxist student protests. Hosei University experienced some especially intense protests in the 70's, before the movement largely collapsed from within.

Translator's Notes (2/2)



- Page 13, Panel 1: Chart
  Mentioned persons:
  - Funakoshi Eiichirou (actor), Aneha Hidetsugu (architect), Ayanokouji Kimimaro (comedian),
  - Ogura Tomoaki (TV personality), Mikawa Ken'ichi (singer), Bandou Eiji (baseball player),
  - Nakai Masahiro (idol and TV personality), Kanda Masaki (actor), Kamayatsu Hiroshi (musician),
  - Joushima Shigeru (leader of the band TOKIO), Fukuyama Masaharu (musician and actor), Shinoyama Kishin (photographer).

  All have (or are suspected to have) wigs or hair transplants.

- Page 13, Panel 1: "(no write-off)"
  Bandou Eiji attempted to have his hair transplants deducted from his taxes as a business expense.

- Page 13, Panel 2: Chart
  The themes of each column, from right to left, are as follows: degree of Sadism and violent tendencies, degree of plastic surgery, degree of pedophilia, degree of literary merit, quality of dining experience.

- Page 18, Panel 4: "Jun Kinsu-san"
  A reference to Charles Robert Jenkins, a former US soldier who defected to North Korea in the 60's and lived there for many years. He was married to a Japanese woman who had been abducted by the North Koreans and became a permanent resident of Japan after he was released.

- Page 19, Panel 2: "I shall participate... In this gold rush as well!"
  Actor Matsudaira Ken. See notes for page 11.